



Blackboard Connect Mass Notifications

Blackboard Connect Mass Notifications is the school system's primary source of notifying parents, staff, students and the community of emergency information, daily activity updates, reminders, and more. Blackboard Connect will also be used to help make daily attendance calls.

Blackboard Connect also has the capability to modify delivery preferences to meet individual needs. All audiences will be contacted how and where they want via phone, text, and/or email.

ACPS will continue to remain in compliance with the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), which prohibits calls made using automatic telephone dialing equipment, such as Blackboard Connect, or a pre-recorded message to any telephone number without prior express consent. **It is important to remember that if you do not opt-in to receive Blackboard Connect notifications, you will NOT receive any school or district notifications – this includes updates regarding weather-related delays and closings.**

Aspen's student information system stores opt-in information. **If you have already opted-in to receive notifications, you do not have to do so again this year. If you have NOT opted-in to receive notifications, parents can do so on their child's Aspen account or by contacting their child's school.** Please note, any time a mass calling system is utilized, the time it takes for all calls to be completed can range from one to one and a half hours. Opting for a text message or visiting the ACPS website, Facebook or Twitter will always be the fastest forms of notifications.

It is extremely important for parents to keep schools abreast of changes in telephone numbers in order for this mass notification system to be successful.

Announcements concerning delays or closures will be posted on the school system's website, www.acpsmd.org, will be sent out via Blackboard Connect (all local media outlets receive the announcement via Blackboard Connect), Facebook and Twitter, 9 News Now, Fox 5, WHAG TV, and ABC 7 and News Channel 8. ACPS has discontinued posting updates on Schoolsout.com.

Please note, text messages will not be sent until numbers are manually entered into Blackboard Connect. Please complete and return the bottom portion of this letter only if you need to update or register for notifications. If information entered last year remains accurate, you can disregard this request. Returning this paper will serve as consent to opt-in to receive Blackboard Connect notifications.



Student(s) Name:

Number(s) to Receive **TEXT MESSAGES**:

ADDITIONAL NUMBER(S) to Receive Phone Calls (*not numbers ALREADY in Aspen*):

Email Address:

